THE
CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

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ANUARY, 1955

Topics For February

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DR. ERNEST ROWLETT BRYAN

President (1949 - 1954)
International Society of Christian Endeavor

Tributes Paid To Life Of Dr. Bryan

Memorial Issue

The
Christian Endeavor
WORLD

Cover

Dr. Ernest Rowlett Bryan, president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor since 1949, who died of a heart attack at his home in Washington, D. C., December 17.

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

JANUARY — 1955

Volume 70, Number 5

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Gene Stone .....Editor
Bert H. Davis .....Associate Editor
Harold E. Westerhoff .....Publisher

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Coming to You by Way of

The General Secretary

Dr. Bryan Called to Life Triumphant

God has suddenly called our dear friend and leader, Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, from our midst. His life was a glorious inspiration to many. With his tranlation there comes a new call to Christian Endeavorers everywhere to give renewed efforts and dedication to the Christian Endeavor movement that Ernie Bryan loved so much and served so well. Dr. Bryan was called to his eternal reward December 17. He had spent the evening with his wife Mildred and daughter Carolyn in downtown Washington, D. C., and while preparing to retire was stricken with a heart attack and died instantly.

SERVICES CONDUCTED IN WASHINGTON

Memorial services for Dr. Bryan were conducted in the Metropolitan Methodist Church in Washington December 20 at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, gave a message. Those assisting in the service were Dr. George M. Docherty, minister, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Washington; Dr. Edward Gardner Latch, minister, Metropolitan Methodist Church, Washington; Rev. William J. Linebach, secretary of the Capital Area Christian Missionary Society; and Dr. Gene Stone, general secretary, International Society of Christian Endeavor. Music was by the Rockville Christian Church choir, directed by George M. Pappas. Burial was in Rock Creek Cemetery.

A Distinguished Career

Dr. Bryan, who was president of International Society of Christian Endeavor since July of 1949, began his Christian Endeavor career at an early age. He was president of the Stueben County (New York) Union when 16. Later he was citizenship superintendent of New York State Union; world peace superintendent of International Society, and president, Maryland Union. He was general secretary of the World's Union in charge of Area I since 1949. He was a leader and spoke at scores of conventions in North America and other parts of the world. Born in Bath, N. Y., in 1906, Dr. Bryan was educated at Haverling High School, Bath, N. Y.; Syracuse University, (A.B.); George Washington University, (M.A.); American University, (Ph.D.) He received the honorary degree of Litt.D from Whitworth College. Dr. Bryan was an ordained minister in the Disciples of Christ Church in Rockville, Maryland. He was a member of the General Commission on Chaplains and was chairman of the committee on United Fellowship of Protestants. A lieutenant commander in the naval reserve, Dr. Bryan was on active duty from 1943-1946. Since 1946 he was civilian head of motion picture training film production of the U. S, Navy in Washington. He formerly served as forum leader in the U. S. Office of Education, Public Forums, and for three years was assistant publications director of the National Education Association and worked with the World Peace Foundation. He was author of *America Turns to Social Securtiy* and *Forward With Christ* and was a contributor of articles to many secular and religious magazines. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Gott Bryan of 3829 Cathedral Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., and daughter Carolyn, a student at Mt. Holyoke College.

DR. POLING TO ACT AS PRESIDENT

With the passing of Dr. Bryan, the Executive Committee of the International Society has requested Dr. Daniel A. Poling to act as president until the next annual meeting which will be held at the convention in Columbus, Ohio, in July. Dr. Poling, who is president of the World's Union and former head of International Society, has agreed to accept this responsibility. (Message by Dr. Poling is on page 10.)

Gene Stone

Dr. Ernest Rowlett Bryan

Message Given by DR. DANIEL A. POLING, president, World's Christian Endeavor Union, at Memorial Services, Metropolitan Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., December 20, 1954.

ERNEST ROWLETT BRYAN, president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, general secretary of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, and pastor of the Rockville Christian Church, was born in Bath, New York, on the 14th day of August, 1906. Suddenly and in the full career of his life and activities he was called out of time into eternity on Friday, December 17, 1954. One week ago today plus one day at exactly this hour Ernie and I sat together and discussed at length Christian Endeavor, Allied Youth and the interests of Christian Youth, generally, throughout America and literally around the world. That conversation and conference was characteristic of the man — the catholicity, the comprehensiveness, the breadth and depth of the mind and heart of our beloved and associate, Dr. Ernest R. Bryan.

We talked intensely about Christian Endeavor, Allied Youth, the Rockville Christian Church, the Naval Reserve and always, Mildred, his wife, and Carol, his daughter. Later, we went to the deeply moving memorial services honoring another of our life-long associates, W. Roy Breg, who too, was called suddenly from vast activities into the greater things of the soul. My overseas mission planned to start on January 3, taking me to the Pacific, the Far East, and across India to London had been very much in the executive planning of Dr. Bryan. We discussed the World Christian Endeavor Area Conference of 1956, set for Suva in the Fijiis, the field secretaryship of Australia, the bright prospects in Japan and the uncertainties of Korea and the next World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Beirut, Lebanon. Almost prophetic it seems now that in that crowded afternoon of that Sunday as we considered together a new relationship for him — almost prophetic I say, that Dr. Bryan should have opened his heart on the many and varied responsibilities he carried and that he should have spoken with regard for each of these and with affection for those who were his closest associates. To even mention the names of these organizations and their officers would be both inadequate and incomplete.

The body of Lieutenant Commander Ernest R. Bryan is clothed in a naval reserve uniform of his country. Worn so worthily by him, he will be buried in it. The services he rendered under the flag, both in war and peace, was a characteristic contribution of this always loyal Christian citizen. He dreamed dreams and then vigorously helped make those dreams come true; dreams of the intellectual and physical security, the spiritual guidance and enrichment of the nation's youth who are called into the armed services.

Preeminently, Ernest Rowlett Bryan was a clergyman, a clergyman ordained in the Brotherhood of the Disciples of Christ. He was a preacher of the complete and sufficient gospel of Jesus Christ. He was a pastor with tender regard for the men, women and children of his congregation. Always with generosity and understanding he entered into their personal problems and needs and broke to them the bread of life. In his pulpit and out of it, as in all of his administrative activities, wherever they centered (at times they seemed to center everywhere!) Dr. Bryan was a sound educator, a true scholar to whom Christian faith was never in contradiction with science but always, always transcented pure knowledge. Always and everywhere Ernest R. Bryan gave to Jesus Christ the preeminence. Today, I can almost hear him, hear him whisper:

> "I know not how that Calvary's Cross my soul from sin could free,
> I only know HIS matchless love has brought God's love to me."

Ernie Bryan carried into his personal relationships, into his friendships, those gracious, generous, selfless qualities that he wore like shining eqaulets upon his heart, first as a loving, faithful husband and as a faithful, loving father. To us poor humans that we are, so inadequate and needy, it is incredible that he should be so quickly gone from time and space — gone and never to come again as always he has come before. But in the faith he preached and believed, practiced and lived; the faith that was his experience and that may be ours now, in that faith all glorious and blessed, though gone, he is not away.

Suddenly he finished with the tasks that filled his hands and compelled his heart, but he finished only to begin again. This life, is indeed, but the childhood of our immortality and Ernest Rowlett Bryan has come to his maturity, has entered into his triumphant fulfillment and is now a participant in those eternal things that are *hid with Christ in God.*

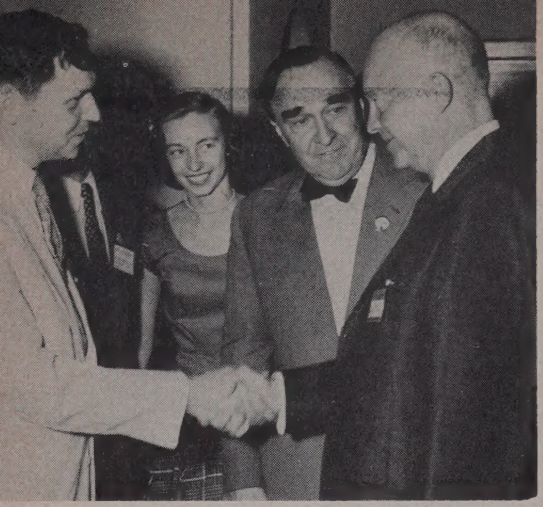
To those whom he loved better than he loved his own life, to Mildred, his wife and to Carolyn, their daughter, and to his sister and brothers, he leaves memories of indescribable loveliness and now and forever they know where to find him! To us his comrades in service, he leaves unfinished tasks to which in his memory and as we would honor him, we now rededicate ourselves. Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, we promise *Him that we will* strive as we have not striven ever before to do and to be whatever He would have us do and be.

(*Please turn to Page* 10, *Col.* 1)

He was great by all the tests of goodness . .

He was wise with a veritable genius of friendship . .

He was a leader with demonstrated qualities of leadership . .



GREETS THE PRESIDENT—Dr. Bryan welcomes Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower at session of World's Convention in Washington, D. C., July 25, 1954 when the Chief Executive addressed the delegates. With Dr. Bryan is pictured his daughter, Carolyn, and Dr. Daniel A. Poling.

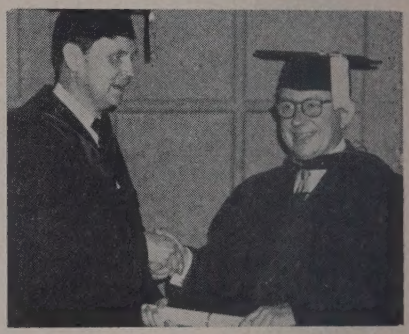
LAYS CORNERSTONE—Dr. Bryan officiates at ceremonies at the new headquarters building of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, June 13, 1953. Watching is June Forrester, at that time president of Franklin County (Ohio) Union.

ACCEPTS NEW TASKS—Dr. Daniel A. Poling congratulates Dr. Bryan after Dr. Bryan was installed as the new president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor at the convention in Toronto July 5, 1949. For two years prior Dr. Bryan was general secretary.

Pictures from the Life of Dr. Ernest Rowlett Bryan

HONORS INDIA LEADER—While attending the Third World Youth Conference at Travancore, India, in December, 1952, Dr. Bryan places a Christian Endeavor pin on the coat of Rev. John A. Jacob, president of the India Union.

TALKS WITH "MA" SUNDAY—At the Billy Graham Campaign in Washington in 1952 Dr. Bryan chats with Mrs. William A. Sunday when "Christian Endeavor Night" was observed. Dr. Bryan was publicity chairman for the Graham meetings.



RECEIVES DEGREE—President Hurst R. Anderson of American University, Washington, D. C., presents the Doctor of Philosophy degree to Dr. Bryan at commencement exercises June 14, 1953.

VISITS HAWAII—After a speaking tour in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji Islands in the Fall of 1953 Dr. Bryan addresses rallies in Hawaii. Rev. Joseph Dizon, president of Honolulu Union, welcomes Dr. Bryan and his wife, Mildred, shown at left.

TAKES PART IN DEDICATION—Dr. Bryan marches in procession at the dedication of the Daniel A. Poling Building at 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, December 6, 1953. Dr. Poling is at Dr. Bryan's left. Carroll M. Wright, chairman of building committee, is in background.

DIRECTS FILM PRODUCTIONS—Since 1946 Dr. Bryan served as civilian assistant to the head of the motion picture department of the United States Navy Photographic Center in Washington, D. C.

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As You Begin A New Year...

Messages from Christian Endeavor Leaders

. DANIEL A. POLING, *President,*
World's Christian Endeavor Union
O MY CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR ASSOCIATES
ROSS AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD:

When this greeting appears, God willing, I shall completing my preparation for a mission into the ific, on to the Far East, across India and Europe, re- ing to New York by way of London. I shall visit n orphanages or children's homes supported by *istian Herald Magazine* — three in Korea, three on mosa and one, the largest, in Hong Kong. Signifi- tly, the home in Hong Kong has the radiant name, ith-Love." Here more than 500 boys and girls and ies are cared for. And through these seven open rs, more than 1,400 children have passed to re- e loving care and the ministry of Christian faith.

Also on this journey I shall have the privilege of ting again with our Christian Endeavorers in Ha- i, on the Island of Suva, in Japan and Korea, with east glimpses of them in other countries. Certainly all expect to have a conference with our good friend, Rev. Andrew Wright, whom we have all learned to e.

Wherever I go, I shall carry your greetings and your sage of affectionate regard. Ours is a fellowship that frontiers of the world cannot interrupt and that even s and rumors of wars have never been able to de- y. We have a unity that transcends all our differ- es of languages, race and color. This unity is in us Christ and in Him alone. As I leave on this jour- , I greet you again in His Name. In loyalty to Him to His Church, we shall go forward together to ke this New Year a year of achievement in our per- al lives and in all our Christian Endeavor activities.

Sincerely and affectionately, your friend,
DANIEL A. POLING

This message was written by Dr. Bryan shortly ore his death December 17.)

. ERNEST R. BRYAN, *President,*
International Society of Christian Endeavor

f I am to have a day filled with accomplishment, I l that it is well to start in the morning with something ecially useful. And the most useful and helpful start a period, perhaps very brief, of prayer for the day. ur first thoughts are of God and his partnership with we're off to a good start. And the most exacting tasks the day—it's good to start them in the morning too tead of just going into the routine matters and post- ing the rest until afternoon or evening or tomorrow. o it is with a *year.* We have a great year ahead of if we decide, with God's help, to make it so. And that decision should include an early start. If we want to make 1955 a vital year in our individual lives, in our churches, in our Christian Endeavor societies and unions, the time to start is in the morning of the year. Let's begin in January — not February or April or August or December or in 1956.

We know that time has many dimensions. It not only has length but it has breadth and depth. Minutes and days are vital and important as they are filled with accomplishment "for Christ and the Church." We all have the same number of minutes per day at our disposal — the length of the day is the same for all of us and every day — but how we vary and how the days vary in the matter of breadth and depth. We can't control the length but we can do something about the other dimensions. As we broaden our interests, our concerns, our sympathies, and our understanding of others and their needs, our time, our days, yes and even our minutes, become broader and more blessed. As we give spiritual quality, a dedication, to our tasks, however humble, the time we give them takes on depth and character and added meaning.

A bright New Year is before us. What a great year it can be — for the Christian cause generally — for you and me as individual followers of the Master IF we begin in January.

Sincerely,
ERNEST R. BRYAN

ALBERT DAY, *Associate President,*
International Society of Christian Endeavor

New Year's — the traditional day of resolutions, turning leaves, and starting out anew! What better opportunity could we find to reread the fifth chapter of Second Corinthians? Here, in the seventeenth verse, Paul reminds us "if any man be in Christ, he is a *new* creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Like Paul, we are new creatures for a wonderful purpose — called to be "ambassadors for Christ." If we, each one, make January 1, 1955 a day of renewed consecration, pledging to "walk in newness of life" and "serve in newness of spirit," the causes of Christ and the Church shall know unlimited advancement.

As ambassadors, one more order is incumbent upon us; it is our Master's new commandment "that ye love one another, as I have loved you." May this be the equation whereby each one of us shall capture the New Year for Christ "new life + new spirit + new love = Forward With Christ!"

A "new" New Year to everyone,
AL DAY

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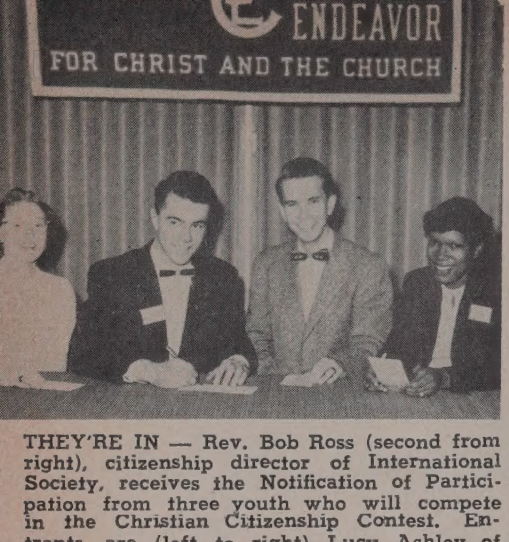

THEY'RE IN — Rev. Bob Ross (second from right), citizenship director of International Society, receives the Notification of Participation from three youth who will compete in the Christian Citizenship Contest. Entrants are (left to right) Lucy Ashley of Burlington, N. C.; Bob Bartleson of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Helen Scott of Washington, D. C. Miss Scott took second honors in the Middle Atlantic Region last year.

February 7 Is Final Day For Citizenship Entries

Many Participating in Contest of International Christian Endeavor-$1,000 in Awards and Two Trips to Convention in Columbus To Be Given

FEBRUARY 7.

That date is an important one for girls and boys who wish to take part in the fourth annual Christian Citizenship Award Contest sponsored by the International Society of Christian Endeavor. All who desire to compete must send a Notice of Participation postmarked no later than February 7 to the Citizenship Director of International Society at 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Many youth throughout North America have already sent word that they are going to participate in the contest in which there are awards totaling $1,000 with two all-expense paid trips to the 43rd International Christian Endeavor Convention to be held in Columbus, Ohio, July 11-16, 1955.

Rev. Bob Ross, the new citizenship director of International Society, has advised that interest in the contest has greatly increased this year with the competition being divided into two divisions. One division is for youth who have not reached their 17th birthday by February 7, 1955 and the other is for those who are 17 or over but have not reached their 25th birthday by February 7, 1955.

Many Awards

Similar awards will be made in each division. The first award in each will be $200 in cash plus the payment of all expenses to the 43rd International Convention in Columbus, Ohio. Second awards will be $100 in cash with the third winners receiving $50. For the next six runners-up in the International finals in each division there will be prizes of $25 for each.

Winners will be selected in the states and provinces. These will then be in nine regional judgings with the top winners in each division in the regions going into the final competition.

Christian Endeavor, church, and civic leaders will serve as judges with the citizenship superintendents of the unions arranging contest details.

Winners will be determined by the merits of "A Letter to My Congressman" or for Canadian Youth, "A Letter to My M.P." (not to exceed 1,000 words) on the subject, "I SPEAK FOR CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP," and a Citizenship Service Record of the individual.

The letter and service record must be in the hands of the judges of the state or province where the youth lives no later than March 1. Announcement of the top winners will be made May 1 or shortly thereafter.

Leaflets containing detailed information may be secured through state and provincial Christian Endeavor offices or from the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

NOTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION

(Request for official entry blanks)

Christian Endeavor Christian Citizenship Award Contest

(Valid only if postmarked no later than February 7, 1955)

Christian Citizenship Director
International Society of Christian Endeavor
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

I hereby enter the CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP AWARD CONTEST ..... ☐

Please send me the official entry blanks and other information. .... ☐

I have requested official entry blanks from my state or provincial Christian Endeavor Union office ..... ☐

(Please check above statements)

Name .....
(Please Print)

Street and Number .....

City and State .....

Local Church .....
(Denomination)

Date of Birth .....

☐ I agree to observe the rules and conditions outlined above.

.....
Signature of Applicant

Directors

Citizenship superintendents or directors of the various unions include the following:

ALABAMA	David L. Boozer
CALIFORNIA	George Orman
COLORADO	Dorothy Hamel
CONNECTICUT	Natalie Beebe
DIST. OF COL.	Jean Appleton
HAWAII	Mr. Fo Tsin Chong
ILLINOIS	Mrs. Edward Chlumecky
INDIANA	Ruth Moore
IOWA	Gertrude Wissink
KANSAS	Rev. Delbert Vaughn
KENTUCKY	Wilhelmina Reinhard
MARYLAND	George Williams
MICHIGAN	Marjorie Hoeve
NEBRASKA	Mrs. Vivian J. Ingraham
NEW YORK	James A. Taylor
NORTH CAROLINA	Arnold Jester
OHIO	Donald Lautzenheiser
PENNSYLVANIA	Wilbur H. Hamilton
TEXAS	Mrs. Alice Sanders
VIRGINIA	Lawrence J. Bresko
WISCONSIN	Jay Nyhuis
WEST VIRGINIA	Clarence Rogers
ONTARIO	Grace Lehman
QUEBEC	Rev. John W. Patterson

Young People Get Set For Birthday Programs

Church Services, Rallies and Banquets Among Events Scheduled for 74th Anniversary Celebration - Conduct Membership Mobilization

POSTER PROCLAIMS — A Christian Endeavor outdoor panel on the lawn of the General Baptist Publishing House at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, gives a message to thousands. Millions of people in the United States and Canada will view these posters which will be along the streets and highways in connection with Christian Endeavor's anniversary celebration.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS celebrate again!

Youth are preparing for the annual week when they will participate in many activities marking the birthday of the pioneer youth movement — Christian Endeavor.

"Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother" is the theme for Christian Endeavor Week which will be observed January 30 - February 6. Programs of societies and unions around the world will emphasize that there is "One Fellowship in Christ."

1955 marks the 74th birthday of Christian Endeavor—which began when Dr. and Mrs. Francis E. Clark called together a group of 57 young people in the parsonage of Williston Congregational Church in Portland, Maine, February 2, 1881.

A Story To Tell

All types of modern communication will be used to tell the story of Christian Endeavor. Television and radio programs are planned. Telephones will be ringing. Outdoor poster panels will be displayed along the streets and highways in the United States and Canada. Stories will appear in newspapers, magazines, and church bulletins. Special window displays will be made.

The deadline for entries in the fourth annual Christian Citizenship Award Contest comes with the closing of this special week. Young people up to 25 years of age may enter this competition which has awards totaling $1,000 in cash and two trips to the 43rd International Convention in Columbus, Ohio, July 11-16. Notices of participation must be sent postmarked no later than February 7 to the Citizenship Director of International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Christian Endeavorers will take part in many services in local churches when denominational day will be marked Sunday, January 30, and Christian Endeavor Day will be held February 6.

Union rallies, banquets, conferences, and many special projects are being planned for the observance of Christian Endeavor's birthday.

A packet containing a manual with suggestions for Christian Endeavor Week together with party, banquet, publicity and other plans may be secured from state or provincial union offices or the International Society for 50 cents.

Mobilization Time

Intensified efforts in the annual Membership Mobilization of International Society will be made during the anniversary celebration. This campaign starts with the beginning of the year and continues through January and February. Individuals and societies will will be taking part by becoming annual members of International Society making contributions of $10. Many will become sustaining members by giving $25 or more and some will be signing up as life members with contributions of $200.

The financial structure of the International Society depends primarily on the results of the annual mobilization efforts.

A new feature of Membership Mobilization this year is the special enrollment of societies. Enrollment certificates will be sent to societies. Blue star ones will go to those who make contribution of $10 or more; red for those with a contribution of $25 or more, and gold to the ones giving $50 or more. Harold E. Westerhoff, administrative secretary of International Society, is directing the campaign.

SOCIETY ENROLLMENTS

Harold E. Westerhoff, mobilization director, displays the enrollment certificate for societies securing annual memberships in International Society. Shown (left to right) are Ann S. Fulton of Richmond, Virginia; Clyde Sherk of Port Colborne, Ontario; Mr. Westerhoff; and Virgil Cox of Denver, Colorado.

Organize for Service

EDITOR'S NOTE — *This month's Workshop quotes from the new book, "With Young Adults In Christian Endeavor," written by Phyllis G. Brown and Bert H. Davis. This publication will shortly be off the press and will give information about organizing and carrying out Young Adult programs together with topic suggestions. It can be secured through International Society.*

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR is a Christ-centered organization of Christian young people, having as its purposes:

- Leading young people to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- Bringing them into the life of the church.
- Sustaining and training them for the service of Christ and His cause.
- Releasing them through all channels of human activity in the service of God and man.

Thus the organization of a Young Adult Christian Endeavor society is to provide opportunities for its members to achieve these objectives. And it is hoped that each local church will have such an organization for each distinct adult grouping.

In every group three basic principles include (1) a simple organization, adequate for present needs, (2) a flexible organization, easy to adapt or expand with changing needs, (3) a democratic organization, with active participation by each member, an essential for growth of the Christian ideal.

With these general principles in mind, let's get down to the business of electing officers which every organization needs: a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Names for these offices may be proposed by the Nominating Committee or named from the floor. Securing consent of the person before nominating is wise. Term of office may be three months, six months, or one year, as the group prefers. When term of office is on an annual basis, it would be best for it to coincide with the church's fiscal year.

Officers

The *president,* of course, is responsible for the work of the Young Adult society and the liaison between other groups within the local church and the community, together with affiliated Christian Endeavor unions—city, county, district, State, International, and World. If possible, he should be a member of the official church board. He interprets the program of the denomination or brotherhood, encourages participation in its projects and activities, promotes attendance at church training conferences and Christian Endeavor conventions. He of course is the presiding officer, preparing agenda for all business meetings, and he also serves as chairman of the executive committee which is composed of the society's four officers.

The *vice-president* assists the president, especially in working with committees, and sometimes has the specific duty of Program Chairman or Membership Chairman. He may sometimes preside, for the experience, although the president may be present, and of course he presides in the president's absence.

The *secretary* is the record-keeper and historian of the society, and also keeps the membership posted on appointments and meetings, and assists with publicity if there is no special committee for this. The secretary, too, will plan varied and meaningful ways of calling the roll at the monthly Consecration meeting.

The *treasurer* keeps accurate accounts of all money received and disbursed, making reports at business meetings, in addition to helping draft the budget for the society.

Committees are needed to expedite business and to channel the service of each member. Appoint committees as needed and see that every member is assigned to a different committee each year for well-rounded training and experience. While others may be added, the four essential committees of a Christian Endeavor society include Program (or Devotional), Membership (or Lookout), Study (or Missionary), and Social (or Recreational).

Committees

The *Program Committee's* responsibility is to provide live-wire programs with interest and variety for each meeting, appointing leaders three months in advance, providing material, and assisting in the preparation where needed.

While *Membership* is the responsibility of everyone, this committee directs sending out teams of two to interest prospective young adults, surveys church and community for lists of names, issues special invitations, makes telephone calls, and serves as the greeting committee for young adults at all church services. While on the lookout for new members, it does not overlook present members, particularly the absent and sick, remembering birthdays and anniversaries. It helps the members observe their Christian Endeavor pledge and secures a response from an absent member to be read at the roll call during the monthly Consecration meeting—usually the first Sunday of each month when the pledge is reaffirmed. And above all, it looks up for guidance, praying for the work of the society.

The *Study Committee* broadens the horizons of the society through study of denominational mission fields, both at home and abroad, and sponsors service projects not only to give meaning to the work but to share in telling the "old, old story to those who know it not." Study of special interests for young adults may also be the work of this committee, such as Bible study, good literature, homemaking, and social problems of the community. It may also arrange for an annual study of *Christian Endeavor Essentials.*

The *Social Committee* through planned monthly recreational programs develops the Christian fellowship of the society's membership. Doing things together binds young adults in closer friendships and needed acquaintance, and develops team work. Depending on the season, such wholesome recreation can be enjoyed as steak and fish fries, oyster roasts, watermelon feasts, picnics, hikes, wiener roasts, bowling, tournaments, come-and-see tours, dinners, teas, and the like.

Of course, there may be other committees, such as Publicity, Citizenship, Quiet Hour, Tenth Legion, Life-Work Recruit, and many others or a combination of those mentioned.

So much for organization—and remember to keep it simple!

Who Provides the Leadership?

Young adults have reached maturity and are capable of supplying their own leadership. Sometimes the beginning must be made by some older person who sees the need and has the ability to draw younger persons into activities, but she should assume the role of coach rather than captain. In understanding and working with young adults, the older person must accept their diversity, look at the same experience from a different point of view, and recognize the process of "settling down."

Eventually the group should become independent of external leadership. It should have a core of trained leaders—thoughtful, responsible young men and women who will adapt the program and organization of the group to fit changing circumstances. And in all probability, they will be shouldering burdens of leadership in the church as well as in their Young Adult society.

Early adulthood, from the mid-twenties up to about 35, is the time when people are considered most productive and carry the economic burdens of the home and society. Young adults are expected to establish homes, rear children, provide for the future, and be interested in and share the responsibility for maintaining worthwhile institutions, such as the church, youth organizations, and fraternal groups. Because of these responsibilities, they find themselves with leadership roles in various affairs, such as parent-teacher associations, women's clubs, business and professional women's groups, Rotary, Optimist, Ruritan, Quota, and other service clubs. Young adults pour their energies and enthusiasm into civic groups, clubs, and lodges, which is well and good, but how much better for the individual and community if tempered by a deep religious life! Christian Endeavor in the local church can help in their spiritual development, which will not only strengthen leadership in civic life but in church activities as well. Young adults possess sufficient energy and abilities for leadership in both the church and civic improvement groups and they are eager to expand their Christianity and put their ideals to work in the everyday world for the betterment of all. The church has only to command their resources.

Young Adult Workshop

OFFICERS INSTALLED — Dr. Frederick L. Mintel of New Jersey, conducts ceremony for new leaders of Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference. His message to those taking over new duties was based on the theme, "Not I, but Christ." Pictured (left to right) are Dr. Mintel; Ralph E. May of Colorado, president; Ray Zimmerman of Ontario, vice-president; Mary Moffitt of Texas, secretary; E. Herman Brackbill of Pennsylvania, treasurer; Russell S. Gowdey of New York, and B. McClain Cochran of Pennsylvania, nominees to Executive Committee of International Society.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SECRETARIES DINE—Workers who shared the problems and joys of Christian Endeavor work shown at meeting in Columbus are (left to right) B. McClain Cochran, Pennsylvania; Rev. Robert Hess, California; Charles O. Heyward, Maryland-D. C.-Virginia; Norman Purdy, Massachusetts; Rev. G. Diran Minassian, New York; Rev. Bob Ross, Indiana-Illinois; Herbert H. Gilfoy, New Jersey; Dr. Frederick L. Mintel, New Jersey; Rev. Raymond Weiss, Michigan; Harold E. Westerhoff, administrative secretary, International Society; and Ray Zimmerman, Ontario. Peggie Harmon, Tennessee, and Rev. Elwood Dunn, acting general secretary, Michigan, were not present when picture was taken.

Leaders Expect New Advances

A new note of optimism was sounded at the annual meetings of the Program Council of the International Society of Christian Endeavor and the Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference held in Columbus, Ohio, December 3-6.

Advances in many areas of Christian Endeavor work during the year 1954 were reported and plans for more forward steps in 1955 were discussed.

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, expressed his joy in the way Christian Endeavor activities are moving along and told the leaders of the forthcoming trip he will take around the world in January, visiting many Christian Endeavorers..

The Council was advised that during the past year there has been more publishing of new material and revision of Christian Endeavor literature than has been done for a decade or more. Christian Endeavor publishing sales have exceeded those of many years.

Those at the meetings learned that there are now more field and executive secretaries of Christian Endeavor, either part or full time, employed in the state and provincial unions than has been the case for a number of years.

Albert Day, new associate president of International Society, conducted worship services that were based on the 12th chapter of Romans.

Paul F. Hurley presided at sessions of the Program Council with Russell Gowdey chairing meetings of the Executives' Conference.

Fellowship

Leaders chat at reception in C. E. headquarters during December meetings. Shown (left to right) are Phyllis I. Rike, assistant to the general secretary; Shirley Edwards, office assistant; Albert Day, associate president; Phyllis G. Brown, vice - president; and Ralph E. May, new president of Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference.

Mayor Gives Welcome

Mayor M. E. "Jack" Sensenbrenner of Columbus, welcomed the group at the banquet and challenged his listeners to new efforts in helping the spiritual life of the country. Dr. J. Gordon Howard, chairman for the International Convention to be held in Columbus, was the banquet speaker.

Reports of committees were made and recommendations were adopted for action in the year ahead. An interesting discussion on the weaknesses and strength of Christian Endeavor was given by a panel which included Rev. W. N. Gibson, youth director, General Baptist Church; Rev. Howard Teusink, youth director, Reformed Church in America; and Rev. Robert W. Rash, general secretary of education, United Brethren in Christ.

Rev. Robert Hess, field secretary of California, preached at the Sunday evening church service.

Suggest "Sunday" For Pledge

The Council voted to suggest to societies that the first Sunday of October be a day for a special presentation of the Christian Endeavor pledge. The Council commended the work of the United Fellowship of Protestants and urged Endeavorers to aid youth going into military service. Discussion was held on possible activities for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of Christian Endeavor in 1956.

Presentation was given by Dr. R. W. Rash on "What Christian Endeavor Believes."

(*Please turn to Page* 10, *Col* 3)

Dr. Ernest Rowlett Bryan

(*Continued from Page* 3, *Col.* 2)

For more than half the years of Ernie's fruitful life, he has been my dear friend, steadily becoming as my younger brother or my son. In such a time as this, words fail to reach their well intended mark and the heart cannot release that which language cannot express. But he was great by all the tests of goodness and he was wise with a veritable genius of friendship and he was a leader with demonstrated qualities of leadership that moved him into first place among us. He was so worthy of the trust and love we gave him.

Through the hours that have passed since first I knew, I have had consciously, and I am sure subconsciously, as my companion these words, modest as he was, these words he would not speak of himself, but words which were true of another and that make now the shield upon which he is borne to his coronation:

> "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day and not to me only (can't you hear Ernie say that?) but unto all them also that love His appearing."

PRAYER — For this man so good and so truly great and whom we loved so dearly, we thank thee our Heavenly Father whence he came and to whom now he has returned. We thank thee, we praise thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Close Ranks, Face Front And Foward March!

So unexpectedly and suddenly was our beloved friend and associate, Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, taken from us that our loss is all but overwhelming. But we shall only worthily remember and honor him if we go forward now, with his radiant spirit as our inspiration, to carry forward to yet greater results our unfinished tasks.

My own inadequate words of tribute are found elsewhere in these columns. But I accept now the emergency call of the Executive Committee and, until the Columbus Convention, shall do my bit and best to serve with all of you in making this Convention an unparalleled success. To this end God helping us, we shall unite our prayers, our faith and our activities. Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, Columbus, 1955, shall be, to Ernest Bryan, a memorial more worthy than any block of stone. I pledge my best and count on you to join me in this dedication.

Sincerely and affectionately your friend,

Daniel A. Poling

LEADERS EXPECT NEW ADVANCES

(*Continued from Page* 9, *Col.* 3)

A message was received from Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, president of International Society, who was unable to attend the meetings because of a recent injury to his foot. Report on the World's Convention was made by means of a recording and Kodachrome slides supplied by Warren G. Hoopes.

Officers Elected

Dr. Robert W. Rash of Huntington, Indiana, general secretary of Christian Education of the United Brethren in Christ, was chosen as the new president of the Program Council, succeeding Paul F. Hurley. Rev. Robert Hess, field secretary of California Union, was elected vice-chairman, with Rev. Bob Ross as executive secretary.

Committees elected by the council are as follows:

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE — Rev. Howard Teusink, chairman; Rev. George L. Blackwell, Phyllis G. Brown, B. McClain Cochran, Albert Day, Rev. Earle W. Gates, Rev. William N. Gibson, Rev. Clarence A. Kopp, Jr., Christina E. MacAskill, Dr. Robert W. Rash, and Rev. Bob Ross, executive secretary.

TOPICS COMMITTEE — Rev. James K. Rapp, chairman; Rev. Brenton J. K. Arthur, Bert H. Davis, Rev. Elwood Dunn, Rev. Ivan E. Frick, Ann S. Fulton, Mrs. Alice Griffin, Vernon Hoffman, Rev. Jerry A. Moore, Rev. J. Wesley Siebert, and Rev. Bob Ross, executive secretary.

JUNIOR WORK COMMITTEE—Viroqua Nodolf, chairman; June Forrester, Nellie V. Griffin, Mrs. Warren G. Hoopes, Sr. Dorothy Kling, Margaret Paugh, Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart, and Rev. Bob Ross executive secretary.

Ralph E. May, president of Colorado Union, was elected head of the Executives' Conference with Ray Zimmerman as vice-president, Mary Moffitt, secretary and E. Herman Brackbill, treasurer.

It was voted that the Program Council hold its next meeting in Columbus December 2 and 3. The Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference will convene in Ohio's capital city December 2-5.

HONOR YOUTH

David Schattschneider

Ann Shaw

Ann Shaw of First Reformed Church, Tarrytown, and David Schattschneider, New Dorp Moravian Church, Staten Island, were honor students at the assembly of the New York State Christian Endeavor Union held at Stony Brook. David served as president of the assembly and Ann, treasurer.

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS

The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for FEBRUARY

Feb. 6. Juniors for Christ — and Others. Mark 12:29-33.
Feb. 13. The Junior Citizen and TV. Philippians 4:8, 9.
Feb. 20. The Junior Citizen and Alcohol Romans 14:21; I Corinthians 8:13.
Feb. 27. The Junior Citizen and the Law. Matthew 22:15-22.

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Round-up Started For C.E. Delegates

Registration Campaign For Convention in Columbus, Ohio, Gets Underway - Unions Seek Honors

DISCUSS PROGRAM—Ideas for the big convention in Columbus, Ohio, are talked about at meeting of Executives' Conference. Pictured are: First Row (left to right) — Dr. Gene Stone, general secretary, and Rev. J. Wesley Siebert, convention program chairman. Second Row (left to right)— Norman E. Brown, president, Ohio Christian Endeavor Union, and Rev. Bob Ross, educational secretary.

GOING TO COLUMBUS?

That question will be asked many young people throughout North America in the days ahead as the registration campaign for the 43rd International Christian Endeavor Convention to be held in Columbus, Ohio, July 11-16, gets under way with the beginning of the new year.

Registrars have been appointed for state and provincial unions and are organizing in their areas to sign up delegates for the big event in Ohio's capital city.

Scores of awards will be given to individuals and will go to societies and unions in the contest.

Unions To Compete For Honors

The state and provincial union contest will be divided into two divisions. The first report period will end January 31. Each month an award of $10 will be given to the union in each division that makes the greatest percentage increase towards its minimum goal. Second place awards will also be made. The contest will close June 20 when those in leading positions will receive banners at the convention. Locations in the parade to be held Saturday, July 16, will be determined by the order in which unions finish in the contest.

District, county, and local unions will be given awards for registrations received as will be the case of societies and individuals. The grand prize for individuals will be $100 toward expenses of attending the International Convention or $75 in cash. Many other prizes such as pencils, pins, pennants, and jackets will be given.

Registrations are $3. If individuals do not wish to pay the entire amount at once they may pay $1 and the balance on arrival at the convention. For the purpose of the contest each one dollar of registration money will count for one-third of a contest point.

A complete bulletin on the registration contest may be secured through Mr. Harold E. Westerhoff, administrative secretary, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Buckeyes on The Job

Ohio Christian Endeavor Union, the host for the convention, is having a registration campaign of its own. Herbert E. Sharp is directing the efforts in Franklin County Union where Columbus is located. The campaign for the rest of Ohio is under the leadership of Vernon Gerber.

Monthly meetings are being held by the committee headed by Dr. J. Gordon Howard that is making arrangements for the entertainment of the more than four thousand delegates that are expected to attend.

The Deshler Hilton Hotel will be headquarters. Meetings each morning will be conducted at Capital University in Columbus. Evening sessions will be held in Memorial Hall.

Many unions are planning automobile caravans to Columbus. Some groups are sponsoring saving funds with individuals placing money in the fund each week to take care of expenses for going to Columbus.

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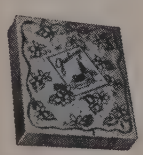

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Forward With Christ

No. 2 in a Series: "Christian Endeavor Week"

Philippians 3:7-14; 4:13

(CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SUNDAY)

Senior-Young People — *FEBRUARY 6* —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

Today is Christian Endeavor Sunday, one of the most important in the whole scope of youth work in the Church. It marks a great milestone of progress, the 74th Anniversary of the founding of the first Christian Endeavor Young People's Society. The topic title today is the same as the International theme of Christian Endeavor, *Forward With Christ.* Upon this theme the united program is based.

This is the closing day of Christian Endeavor Week. It is a day when young people should make their influence felt in their own congregations. The leader of this meeting may help his officers and society members take stock of the activities of the past week. Evaluate the gains of the program for the week. If perchance nothing special was planned and accomplished, plan now. Plan to have a banquet, seek the pastor's co-operation in conducting or sharing a church service. Do not deprive your society program of the new life that it needs, or the lift that such an observance will bring. Christian Endeavor Week for *your church* will be anytime that youth "takes over" and does something distinctive. Do it now!

If such observance has been held, appraise its values, and begin to make new plans to build on the gains noted. "Forward With Christ" is the keynote of the day. It is the clear call to a forward march.

Forward With Christ

This challenging topic comes to us today because it is the biennial theme of International Christian Endeavor. Coming to the churches of this continent from the great International Convention held in Denver, Colorado, in 1953, it has already caught the imagination of countless young people. It has inspired miracles as it has moved across their thinking. This is a day of advance for our beloved movement and somehow this theme has been a symbol for it. It will prepare us for an even greater theme to come out of the Columbus Convention in 1955.

A special theme has also been named for our Christian Endeavor Week observance. How well this week's emphasis gears into the total theme! It is *Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother.* Last week we gave the emphasis of our topic to it. This week let us make specific plans to go forward in the implications of such a theme.

A SEED THOUGHT

"It is never possible to stand still. Either we go forward, or we are already going backward." Why is this true?

What Lies Behind?

In order to properly take stock of our present position, and to move into new realms of conquest, it is necessary that we review our heritage. Let us bring to mind on this 74th Birthday of Christian Endeavor, the outstanding facts of its existence. Thus can we see more clearly why and how to advance. Have an impromptu quiz of your members to discover how well they know the past history of our movement.

Christian Endeavor—The Pioneer Youth Movement.

Founded by Dr. Francis E. Clark, in Williston Congregational Church, Portland, Maine.

Organized February 2, 1881, in the parsonage with the first devotional meeting held in the Church on February 4th.

Motto—"For Christ and the Church"

Four Cardinal Principles:
1. Confession of Christ.
2. Service for Christ.
3. Loyalty to Christ's Church.
4. Fellowship with all of Christ's people.

Present Membership—Estimated at about two million. More than 20,000,000 have been in its ranks.

Is International, Interracial, and Interdenominational.

Graded Endeavor—Provides for all ages in societies planned for all age groups with suitable program. Most adaptable of all church organizations.

Distinct contributions:
Trained leadership for the church.
Opportunity for self-expression and development.
Greatest recruiting agency for the ministry and mission field. The number of former Endeavorers now in pulpits, mission stations and other places of Kingdom responsibilities is beyond imagination.
Has great evangelistic zeal.
Emphasizes personal devotions and stewardship.
Stresses co-operation with local church, pastor, and denomination to the fullest.
It has made the church aware of its youth.

Present Headquarters—International Society of Christian Endeavor and World's Christian Endeavor Union—1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Present Leadership:
World's Union President—Dr. Daniel A. Poling.
Name your own Provincial or State President, and your Executive Secretary.
International Society Staff:
General Secretary—Dr. Gene Stone.
Administration Secretary and Treasurer—Harold E. Westerhoff.
Educational Secretary and Citizenship Director—Rev. Bob C. Ross.

AIM OF THE TOPIC

1. To consider the past of Christian Endeavor and the present challenge.

2. To find the way to go forward with Christ.

FOR DISCUSSION

Instead of the usual questions, let the discussion take the form of Society analysis and planning.

1. Consider the history of Christian Endeavor and discuss how we can advance it further.

2. Weigh the present society program and its values.

3. Make definite plans for relating the three phases: Christian Witness, Christian Fellowship, and Christian Leadership to the society program, beginning NOW.

What Lies Ahead?

Either we move forward or we go backward. It is not possible to remain static in Christian leadership. There is no side-slip in Christian Endeavor. Either we will go *Forward With Christ* or we will be going forward with all that is anti-Christ.

We can best go forward by a three-fold emphasis in the society program. The first may be through *Christian Witness,* emphasizing winning of others, supporting the work and worship of the church and society, missionary out-reach, Christian vocations, and Citizenship. *Christian Fellowship* may be the second emphasis. In this express the importance of fellowship in the home, Church, and Community, and in fields abroad. Stress co-operation with inter-agencies, and helping to meet the needs of others. The third phase may be *Christian Leadership.* Here we would seek new dedication to Christ, cultivate personal growth through the Quiet Hour and Tenth Legion, and strive to enlist others as Life—Work Recruits. Variations of this program may be desirable, according to the local program and local needs. The important thing is to *use it, somehow,* and to make immediate plans to go "Forward With Christ," both in the Society and in individual life.

Scripture References

M., Jan. 31. In Sacrifice. Mark 10:17-22.
T., Feb. 1. In Loyalty. Luke 16:10-13.
W., Feb. 2. In Leadership. Acts 26:13-18.
T., Feb. 3. In Service. Matt. 16:24, 25.
F., Feb. 4. In Prayer. John 17.
S., Feb. 5. In Evangelism. Matt. 28:19, 20.
Sun., Feb. 6. Topic—Forward With Christ. (C.E. Sunday) Phil. 3:7-14; 4:13.

Our Aim

1. To hold before Christian Endeavor members the current theme of the movement.
2. To see what Christian Witness, Fellowship and Leadership involve.
3. To get youth to assume new leadership in Christ's work.

Questions

1. What is the Forward with Christ program of Christian Endeavor?
2. How can you get this program into every phase of the youth work in your church?
3. What is the best place for Christian youth to witness? Why?
4. How can Christian youth make their witness effective?
5. Does your society portray to others that it is a fellowship?
6. How can Christian fellowship best be furthered?
7. Name ways youth can grow into capable leaders in the church and community.

Forward With Christ

No. 2 in a Series: "Christian Endeavor Week"

Philippians 3:7-14; 4:13

(CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SUNDAY)

Intermediate — *FEBRUARY 6* —

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Christ Calls Us To Go Forward

A Chinese Christian once prayed, "Dear Lord, please evangelize the world, beginning with me." How great a prayer that is, and how much more effective than the petition of those who pray in effect, "Lord, make me a Christian, but not just yet!"

To live up to to our confession and to be true followers of Christ, we must want, desire, sacrifice, work toward, and continually pray for our own salvation. New life must come within us before we can win our neighbors.

If we are to go forward with Christ we must dedicate life to him. Thus this 74th birthday of Christian Endeavor should challenge youth to go forward in all ways, but particularly in personal spiritual living. It should promote, likewise, the program of Christian Endeavor (see *Christian Endeavor Week* packet.)

Psalm 100 asks us to "serve the Lord with gladness." We who have greatly sinned and have been greatly saved feel we cannot do enough for our Saviour. We engage in many activities, we work, we plan, we pray, we struggle to win others, that they may share the peace that is ours. In that way we adventure with Him.

We need to know that going forward with Christ is not a rose-strewn road. "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it," was the warning of Jesus, who walked this road of life. The road will be rough at times and there are many attractive detours. If you go ahead of the crowd, they will stone you; if you fall behind, they will jeer you. But all along the way you have the blessed assurance of Jesus, who has trod this path: "Lo, I am with you alway."

Our Scripture

The great energizing principle in Paul's life may be summed up in these words, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark." This a youth does whenever his steps are ordered by the Lord. He sees only one thing—the goal. Ht is not concerned with those who are panting at his heels, nor envious of those whose flying feet out pace his. Nor is he conscious of the cheering, or jeering, multitudes in the grandstand.

He forgets the past, lives in the present, and looks to the future, and the result is the quickened step.

To Go Forward We Must Witness

The keynote of our Christian faith is our willingness to witness. To endeavor earnestly to apply the principles of Jesus to every aspect of our living is our obligation as a disciple. We must carry into school, job, home, and social situations a positive witness for Christ.

The words of Ananias to Paul could well be spoken to every young Christian today. "For you will be a witness for Him to all men."

Forward with Christ in the Home

True religion, like charity, begins at home. Every one of us is given an opportunity each day in the fellowship of the family circle to witness for Christ.

We witness when:

1. We share in the family devotions.
2. We do our share of the work.
3. We share with others in the family our joys and sorrows.
4. We carry through our responsibilities gladly.

If we have learned to practice love, kindness, and consideration in our homes, it will naturally carry over into our relationships beyond the family circle.

Forward with Christ in the Church

Once in a Christian Endeavor discussion one of the members said, "The Church is for the old people." That statement initiated a lively discussion. The Church of Jesus Christ is for children, for youth, for men and women of all ages. The Church needs teen-agers, but teen-agers need the Church, too.

You can witness in the Church:

1. By worshiping regularly.
2. By belonging to your Christian Endeavor society group.
3. By seeing that the material provided is used.
4. By representing your church in conferences, youth rallies, and Christian Endeavor meetings.

There is a job for you in your church. The church is a fellowship and there is no finer fellowship in the world. How can your society develop this sense of fellowship?

Forward with Christ In the Community

We all develop strong loyalties as we walk through life—loyalty to our school, our family, our friends, and to our home town. Civic pride can be a powerful influence for good if directed by a Christian purpose.

Like Paul, we should like to say, "I am . . . a citizen of no mean city." Is your village, town or city a great place for people to live? Are you and your fellow Christians helping in some direct way to make your town a truly Christian community?

A worthy subject for your discussion is: "What constitutes a Christian community?" If time permits discuss this.

Forward with Christ in the World

Jesus emphasized that His disciples should be in the world but not of the world. As Christians it is our job to examine carefully in the light of Jesus' teaching the values and objectives that gain man's approval.

In an atomic age we can witness for Christ by supporting worthy organizations working for peace and for a world government, especially the program of the United Nations. Anything that we can do to build bridges of understanding between ourselves and other people will be a vital witness for Christ.

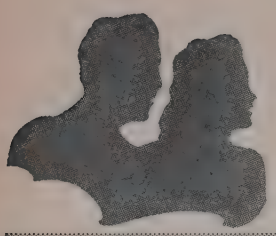
Remember Woodrow Wilson's statement: "I should rather fail in the support of a cause that will ultimately succeed than succeed in a cause that I know will ultimately lose."

Forward Forever with Christ

The confidence of the aged Paul in II Timothy 3:12 to 4:8 is a declaration of faith that would crown any life. "There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness," because of a worthy fight, a finished course, a vindicated faith. As the path of life is begun in Christ, so it is climaxed in Christ! The righteousness that is to be ours is His, and given to us because of our faith in Him. The victory that will be ours is won because of Christ working in and through us to accomplish His purposes. The crown that is won exists because of the cross that He endured.

From God's Word

M., Jan. 31. In Sacrifice. Mark 10:17-22.
T., Feb. 1. In Loyalty. Luke 16:10-13.
W., Feb. 2. In Leadership. Acts 26:13-18.
T., Feb. 3. In Service. Matt. 16:24, 25.
F., Feb. 4. In Prayer. John 17.
S., Feb. 5. In Evangelism. Matt. 28:19, 20.
Sun., Feb. 6. Topic—Forward With Christ (C.E. Sunday) Phil. 3:7-14; 4:13.



What's Right with the Church?

No. 1 in a Series:

"Timely Questions for Christians"

I Corinthians 12:12-27

Senior-Young People — *FEBRUARY 13* —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

Timely Questions For Christians. How interesting this sounds! The first question of this series is especially arresting. *What's Right With The Church?* The leader of this meeting has the responsibility of presenting the case of the Church as convincingly as an attorney for the defense. Perhaps there are things wrong with the Church. The leader must be prepared to acknowledge some of these and to deny others of them if unfair. Be ready to offer suggestions for improving these areas. Having a "resource leader" (the pastor of some capable adult) standing by to help would be of value.

The important thing is to think and read carefully, determining what is *right* with the Church. There will be much more in this area than in the negative. Give the characteristics, the achievements, the present task of the Church. Bring out the fact that it has a very definite mission on earth and that it is succeeding quite well in its accomplishment. It is limited only by the response of its people, *you and me,* the very ones who are discussing its merits. Know something about the program of your church and pastor, and of your denomination. Ask how it is meeting the problems and needs of the day. Have your members commit themselves to a specific part in helping their church do its work, and be its best.

What's Wrong With The Church?

Well, of course, we must acknowledge that the Church is not perfect, far from it. But it is still the agency God has chosen to redeem the world. Nothing that is left in man's hands for management can escape the results of human frailty. We could take the negative aspect of this thought-provoking question and point out all its faults and its unworthy leaders. We could say there are false doctrines, sinful practices, hypocrisies, and schisms in the Church. We could point out our apparent divisions, jealousies, and failures to meet our responsibilities. Yet these would only reflect *our own* inadequacy or disloyalty. And the true picture would not be presented! For every thing wrong about Christ's Church there are a hundred things right about it. Thank God for these right portions; may He forgive us our debts to His Church that have permitted any wrong!

What's Right With It?

Here is a wonderful opportunity indeed to emphasize the *perfectness* of the Church invisible, the Body of Christ. He Himself, the sinless One, is the Head. The world points out what is *wrong* with the Church because it follows not its way. The saints of God gladly rejoice in all that is wonderful and transforming about the Body of Christ.

There are two aspects of this subject to consider. There is the Church invisible, already mentioned, made up of *all* the Christ-ready mentioned, made up of *all* the Christian believers of all ages, in all places. There is only perfection in this mystical body, the Bride of Christ. These "members" are the redeemed of the Lord. All who name the Name of Christ as Saviour will walk with them forever, in the sunshine of God's Heaven. How dare the world lay any charge of accusation against this bloodbought fellowship?

The other aspect of this question, one that we see and more readily understand, is the visible Church. When we "join the Church," we are joined to both the timeless Body of Christ, the Church Universal, and also to "old First Church," or "St. John's Lutheran," or "Calvary Baptist," or some other local congregation. This is the more evident part of the Kingdom of God to most of us. Even here, however, youth must have a more exalted view of the Church for there is no other institution on earth that surpasses her. Truly there are none even to compare! She is the true champion of righteousness and peace. She is the very pillar of truth, the foundation for justice and equality. She has been the trail-blazer in every advance of education, charity, hospitalization, welfare, all the freedoms. Her whole program, at home and abroad, seeks to transform men and society. It would take longer than our meeting tonight to tell even a part of what's right about the Church.

Bible Portions

M., Feb. 7. Speak With Understanding. I Cor. 14:10-19.
T., Feb. 8. Fruits of The Spirit. Gal. 5:22, 23.
W., Feb. 9. Love Made Plain. I Cor. 13.
T., Feb. 10. An Open Door. Rev. 3:7-13.
F., Feb. 11. Opportunities Gained And Lost. Matt. 25:14-30.
S., Feb. 12. The Joy of Finding Luke 15:1-10.
Sun., Feb. 13. Topic—What's Right with the Church? I Cor. 12:12-27.

AIM OF THE TOPIC

1. To show how right the Church is in its task.
2. To contrast it with the failing way of the world.

MORE TIMELY QUESTIONS

1. Briefly, what are some of the faults of the Church of Christ today?
2. What do you think are her greatest virtues?
3. What is right about it? Especially in your own congregation?
4. What do you believe is the true mission of the Church?
5. Are we accomplishing this mission today?
6. How can we do it better?
7. What is the responsibility of the individual Church member in keeping the Church "right"?
8. How can our society show how right the Church is?
9. What does the Church give to the world that nothing else provides?
10. What is the difference between the Church's standard of conduct and the world's? Which is more lasting?

The Mission Of The Church

Jesus Christ, Who is "the same yeste day, today, and forever," commissioned th Church. He gave it a definite mission, an it, too, remains unchanging today in changing world. There are several side to that mission, and it is expressed in man ways by many people. Primarily the task o the Church is to acquaint men with Go through Christ, as it is Christ's mission t acquaint God with men. The Church is t be the gathering-place of the redeeme the sons of God by faith. It is the fold, mi istered to by the Great Shepherd.

We who are a part of this blessed fol are to win others, that they may have th peace of God in their hearts. We are t seek out the wanderers on the highway and by-ways of the world. As men ar brought under the influence of the Gospe the world becomes better.

It is accepted as a part of the Christia Gospel that we of the Church also hav the responsibility of helping others on th earth. We are to be *in* the world, but no *of* it. While we are thus in it we are to b good citizens of its realm and to help othe so to be. The advances that the Church ha made in these fields of social service hav been suggested above. As members of thi great body, the Church of Christ, it is ou duty to so live and to so serve that we wil exemplify Christ our exalted Head, wh Himself "went about doing good." (Ac 10: 38). We are citizens of two worlds the earthly and the heavenly; we must b good citizens. Let us examine the Church— our own church—to see how well we ar accomplishing our mission of Evangelism World Friendship, Christian Educatio Citizenship, and . . . What else shall w add?

A SEED THOUGHT
C H — — C H
What is missing?

Does Color Handicap?

No. 1 in a Series:
"Race and Brotherhood Pressures"

Philemon 8-19

Intermediate — *FEBRUARY 13* —

Our Aims

1. To consider the challenge of Race Relations Sunday.
2. To discover why "color" brings handicaps to certain peoples.
3. To note progress being made toward recognition of a common relationship of all men in Christ.

Questions

1. How did Jesus feel about people of different races and social classes?
2. Did He overlook the sins of a poor man just because he was poor?
3. Did He condemn a rich man simply because he was rich?
4. What do you think was Jesus' standard of values when He worked with others?
5. How can we apply this standard of values in our day?
6. How can we overcome color blindness?
7. What can the Christian do about racial discrimination in his community?
8. How can we help the church to be thoroughly Christian in the recognition of people of other races?

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Program Suggestions

If your congregation is placing an emphasis upon Race Relations Sunday, you should work your program into the total church program. Use every possible means to encourage the members of the group to think intelligently about the problems which arise between races. Conduct the lesson so that each one will find some kind of a Christian answer to the race problem that will be understandable to him.

For the song service use, "Praise Him! Praise Him!" "Truehearted, Wholehearted," and "He Included Me." For the prayer hymn use "Does Jesus Care?" Before your lesson study sing "In Christ There Is No East Nor West," and at the conclusion of the service use "Follow the Gleam."

Story: "Color Blind"— found in "Lamps for Worship" by *Griffis*.

Facts and Fictions about Race

People whose skin has a different color, who profess a different religion, or who have a different birth are not therefore members of a different race: They are often members of a minority group but they are not races. Race is an arbitrary group separation which exists only on paper. It is doubtful that any pure race ever existed. We are all mongrels of one sort or another.

Scripture Readings

M., Feb. 7. A Grateful Ethiopian. Acts 8:37, 39.
T., Feb. 8. A Plea For Tolerance. Acts 15:5-11.
W., Feb. 9. The Right Spirit. Phil 2:1-4.
T., Feb. 10. Christ Deals With Prejudice. John 4:5-10.
F., Feb. 11. Stewards of God's Grace. I Peter 4:8-11.
S., Feb. 12. One Measure For All. II Cor. 10:12, 13.
Sun., Feb. 13. Topic—Does Color Handicap? Philemon 8-19.

It is widely, but mistakenly, believed that differences in color, religion, and birth shape a person's outlook or capacity for learning. This irresponsible prejudice is racism.

Skin color has absolutely no relation to race or intelligence. It is caused by certain chemicals in the skin. Any weekend in Hawaii or Brazil—where there is a churning mixture of people without regard for color—will disprove in a short time all the foolish writing about pure or even group races. "Intelligence," Margaret Halsey cleverly observes, "depends on the number and fineness of the convolutions of the brain. It has absolutely nothing to do with the amount of pigment in the skin. If it did, you would be stupider when you are sunburned."

The church has a great task before it. If the Christian community does not clasp hands with all groups, the pagan religions will probably beat us to it. Already there are Moslem missionaries in America exposing Christianity as a gigantic racial fraud of pretense and hypocrisy. Communism is spreading this idea over all the eastern world.

The story is told of a Negro boy who was walking away discouraged from a church which had rebuffed his desire for membership. The Lord, walking beside him, told him to cheer up, and said, "I've been trying to get into that church for years myself." What do you think of this?

Would Negroes be welcome in your church? Would people of the Orient or India with brown skins? What color is your Christianity?

With the Supreme Court handing down a non-segregation decision, the Christian church needs to make no new policy. It needs merely to carry out positively the policy it already has: That is, welcome all classes and races to equal privileges, opportunities, and responsibilities in the church.

Who Is My Neighbor?

Christian love cares and shares. Jesus taught the inter-relatedness of every life in the famous parable of the Good Samaritan.

Love knows no national boundary lines, no creedal barriers. It is color blind—not conscious of race. Recently in our town a group of misguided citizens tried to evict a Negro family from a new housing project. After a series of meetings in which democratic rights and Christian principles were explained to the leaders of the group, public apologies were made to the Negro family.

The Christians who spoke up for this Negro family demonstrated love in action. And so must we. Never ask "for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

I Remember Some Black Christians

I remember how Kwegyir Aggrey, brilliant, black-faced son of an African talking-chief, held 6,000 picked American men and women students at the First World Conference of Christian Youth in Amsterdam all but breathless, so that they forgot the ablest speakers from Britain and America who addressed them and remembered only this man and his flaming spirit.

I remember Marian Anderson, singing with her eyes shut, but feeling so deeply her song that we all felt its moving power.

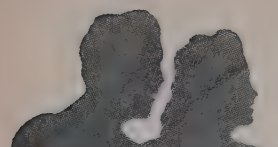
I remember a minister with whom I walked one afternoon. We talked about worship, and read some poems he had collected, most of them by people of his race. He made it impossible for me ever to go back to the notion that white people are necessarily superior.

Suggested Program For Race Relations Sunday

PRELUDE: 'O Brother Man, Fold to Thy Heart Thy Brother."
CALL TO WORSHIP: Romans 12:1a, 4, 5.
HYMN: "Come Let Us Join with Faithful Souls."
SCRIPTURE: I Corinthians 12:12-19; Galatians 2:11-21.
PRAYER: by 3 members asked in advance.
Poem: If You Know How To"

If you know how to—
Get religion like a Methodist,
Experience it like a Baptist,
Be sure of it like a Disciple,
Stick to it like a Lutheran,
Be proud of it like an Episcopalian,
Pay for it like a Presbyterian,
Propagate it like a Catholic,
And enjoy it like a Negro,
You should have some religion.
—F. W. Boreham, Source Unkown.

POEM: "Teach Us, O Lord, True Brotherhood" (Read together instead of singing it.)
SPECIAL MUSIC: If possible have this come from a group outside the church, such as a Negro group, those of another faith, or use records.
OFFERING
TOPIC SUGGESTIONS: 3 short talks by Catholic, Jew and Protestant, with questions following.
HYMN: "In Christ There Is No East Nor West."
BENEDICTION.



What's Wrong with the World?

No. 2 in a Series:

"Timely Questions for Christians"

I John 2:15, 16; 5:19; James 4:1-4

Senior-Young People — *FEBRUARY 20* —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purposes of the meeting.

This topic is the second in a series on *Timely Questions For Christians.* Last week the topic emphasized the *perfectness* of the Church. This week the leader has the opportunity of pointing out what's wrong with the world. Perhaps there are some young persons present who feel that the Church is old-fashioned. As the sinfulness of the world and its way is brought to light the purpose and influence of the Church should be more clearly understood and accepted.

One helpful way of presenting *What's Wrong With The World* would be to clip some newspaper articles or take notes from radio news broadcasts that illustrate the turmoil and violence of the world. Let these wrongs be brought out in the topic. Use a make-believe microphone, and perhaps even a radio, giving these flash bulletins as an announcer would. Then discuss the cause and effect of these things of our present culture.

What's Right With The World?

If we are to contrast the way of the world with the way of the Church, it is only fair that we acknowledge the rightness of God's wonderful world. Certainly it is a beautiful place, divinely designed as the home for mankind, the children of God. The people of earth are good to know. Indeed, everything beautiful and good that is accomplished here is done by people. There is more of this than of evil. The processes of the earth are marvelous to behold. The seasons, the planetary system, the unfailing resurrection of things planted, the very wonder of night and day, sun and wind, soil and air—all these shout forth the rightness of the world. Best of all, we can sing from the depth of our faith, "This is my Father's World." Truly we find rest in the thought that rocks and trees, skies and seas are the wonders His Hand has wrought. Supremely we rejoice.

> "That, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
> God is the Ruler yet.
> This is my Father's world, the battle is not done,
> Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
> And earth and heaven be one."

Yes, there's so much right and wonderful about the world. But let us note carefully, these are all in the realm of the flesh, they are the physical things that call forth our amazement and appreciation. In the area of human relationship, and divine relationships, it is different.

What's Wrong With It?

Perhaps the daily paper or the most question. Behold the appalling picture that is painted by the events that are happening all around us each day. The Bible sheds much light upon it also. Even in the brief Scripture lesson of the day we find that the characteristic things of the world are wars and rumors of wars, fighting, hatred. There is portrayed the lust that destroys, the adultery that breaks homes and lives, the violence against decent human personality. Described also is the sin of murder, of wickedness in countless forms, and of the "pride of life." Among the "ways of the world" are stealing that which belongs to another, blasphemy, and cursing. Not an attractive picture the Bible paints of the world, is it?

Then we may add from our own knowledge the evil habits of gossip, ("backbiting," the Bible calls it), breaking of the Lord's Day, and a general disrespect for authority. There is the great sin of the worship of "mammon," or money, one of the worst of our day. A warping of the Golden Rule causes many to "do others before they do you." Hate and fear are shown in ugly reality everywhere we look—in domestic relations, in industry and business, in crime, and of course in international affairs. Finally, that familiar term "juvenile delinquency" brings us face to face with indifference, irresponsibility, and crime. These are some of the things that are wrong with the world. Note carefully that *each one* of these wrongs is caused by a transgression of the law of God, represented by His Church.

Evil is impractical. It destroys and devastates. Hatred burns up the very soul, warps the personality of the hater. Crime breaks down society. War today could annihilate the entire world. Where human relationships are concerned, the way of the world is the colossal blunder of all time. The way of God is the answer.

The Mission of The World

As far as we are able to determine, the mission of the world of the flesh seems to be to undermine the world of the spirit. It tends to limit and restrict, to cause sor row and pain, to bring an end to thing rather than to project them into eterna good. The way of the world is wrong be cause it *has not Christ* as its head. Con versely the way of the Church is *right* be cause it has Him as her Head. As the Churc exalts CHRIST, so the world exalts MAN This accounts for the selfishness and gree in individuals and nations. Such a mat centered philosophy, so prevalent in th world today, leads to crime, vice, divorce gambling, injustice, intolerance, oppressior strife, war—and eternal punishment. Thi self-centeredness is due to sin in the huma heart but we remember gratefully tha Christ Jesus came to save sinners. Let u never forget, as members of the Churc of Christ, we are the "salt of the earth, to save the world from putrefaction an rot, to save it from itself. Remember to that Christ said, "Ye are the light of th world"—a light for man's darkness, ignor ance and blindness. It is our responsibilit to present Christ to the needy world. It i our high privilege to offer His Way as th answer to the folly of the world's way He alone has the answer to her ills. We alone have the Great Commission, to make disciples. If the way of the world is wrong what are we doing to present the better Way?

A SEED THOUGHT

"The only true method of action in this world is to be constructively in it, but not of it."

AIM OF THE TOPIC

1. To show the error of th world's way.
2. To contrast it with the eter nally victorious way of the Church

MORE TIMELY QUESTIONS

1. Briefly, what are some of the good things about the world today?
2. What is the difference between the physical and the spiritual world?
3. What do you think is wrong in the world today?
4. Name some of the outstanding evils around us.
5. How does a man-centered philosophy cause these evils?
6. Specifically and individually, what is the Christian cure for each?
7. What do you think is the "mission" of the world? Is it succeeding?
8. How permanent are evil things? Why?
9. How permanent are godly things? Why?
10. What is the difference between the world's standard of conduct and the Christian way?
11. Do you care to change the way of the world?

Daily Bible Readings

M., Feb. 14. Fruits of The Flesh. Gal. 5:19-21
T., Feb. 15. The Righteous Persecuted. Matt. 5:10, 11
W., Feb. 16. Of Things To Come. II Tim. 3:1-7
T., Feb. 17. A King's Presumption. I Sam. 13:9-13
F., Feb. 18. Unrighteous Examples. I Kings 16:30-33; 22:51-53
S., Feb. 19. Disobedience Rewarded. Deut. 30:17, 18
Sun., Feb. 20. Topic—What's Wrong with the World? I John 2:15, 16; 5:19; James 4:1-4.

Our Aims

1. To be inspired by great heroes.
2. To discover what Christian patriotism involves.
3. To see where patriots today are needed.

Questions

1. Suppose you believe in the "brotherhood of man." What, then, is required of you?
2. How do religious differences make it hard to understand other races?
3. How do political views make for differences between people?
4. What constitutes a real patriot to his country?
5. What do you think of Edith Cavell's statement, "Patriotism to one's country is not enough"?
6. How can we be true patriots in God's kingdom?
7. Who are some present- day patriots who ought to be better known to today's generation?
8. Why is America called "the melting pot of the world"? Do we continue to merit this title?
9. Who were great Bible patriots?
10. Does your patriotism include loyalty to the United Nations?

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Greatness Yesterday and Today

During this month which has the birthdays of two of America's greatest statesmen and leaders our thoughts turn to the lives of these men. Why are they considered great? What is greatness? What caused these men to live the kind of lives they did?

Let us examine the lives and characters of Washington and Lincoln and see what made these men to be considered great. Both men were famous and powerful. They were well known—they had great influence with people all over the country and were able to lead and control men. Do these qualities necessarily make greatness? I think not. They may be results of greatness but not causes. Hitler, Ghengis Kahn, and other men were powerful and famous but not great.

Greatness is more than power, fame and might. It consists of basic human leadership. Lincoln and Washington were both honest, straightforward, and self-giving. They were courageous and convinced of the value of what they were dedicated to.

Greatness comes from service to others, with selflessness, and consecration. The dedication of one's life to a purpose beyond personal gain and prestige, to a way of life that puts an end to selfish ambition—that is true greatness.

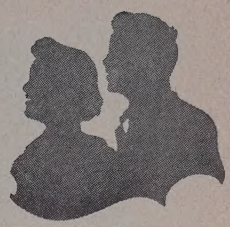
According to that definition greatness really has little to do with popularity, power, fame or honor except as these are recognition of greatness. Think about it—there are great people all around who are never recognized. Those people who are dedicating their lives to others—parents, pastors, farmers, civil servants—all these are great people.

Today's Patriots

No. 2 in a Series:

"Race and Brotherhood Pressures"

Micah 6:6-8; 4:1-3



Intermediate — *FEBRUARY 20* —

Through the lives of truly great men we can see what dedication and selflessness can do to change the lot of men or even the state of a nation or of the world. For certainly the one life that was the greatest and the most devoted and unselfish was that of Jesus of Nazareth who did more for the world in His short life than all the men, governments, kings or princes before or since.

Christ's Patriotism

We who call ourselves Christians believe that Christ's chief mission upon earth was to make God known to His own children. As the representative of God, Christ said to his first followers, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation." In the mind of Christ, the Son of God, no part of this world is inhabited by human beings too inferior to be considered.

Yet Jesus felt a loyalty to His own kin, His own little city of Nazareth, and His own country, symbolized by the city of Jerusalem. He would have ministered to Nazareth if only Nazareth had not spurned Him. He would have ministered to Jerusalem with the devotion of a true patriot had not Jerusalem hated and feared Him because of ideas higher than those which were held by the wise among the Jews of His day. But Christ's loyalty did not terminate with the country that had given Him birth.

Year by year new discoveries and inventions are bringing the peoples of the world closer and closer together. With Him we must broaden our horizons of brotherhood. How can we?

The Christian Patriot Today

It would seem that the first part of one's individual patriotism is a love of country. By this is not meant trite, wornout, empty slogans, but real, genuine love. It is such a powerful love that one would not do certain things. "That is not American," he would say.

After study and prayer, one would come into a second part: a respect for other countries. Just to realize that God's children are everywhere will assist us to this understanding.

The third part of a true patriot's policy is to strive to perfect America's promise. In many ways, this is the most vital thing a person can do.

A true Christian patriot is no more blind to the problems within his country than he is to the problems in other countries. He sees that these problems can be corrected in the light of the word of God as found in the Bible and by Christian deeds both at home and abroad.

Christian patriotism is a love of country that has an awareness of other lands. It is not isolationist; it is a calm, positive appreciation of God's many blessings. It is not rabid; rather it is humble, prayerful, and sincere. Only through true Christian patriotism can we do our best to develop the promise of America.

A Call to Christian Patriotism

Jesus realized the magnitude of the task of redeeming the world, so He called disciples to labor with Him in His preaching, teaching, healing ministry of salvation.

Jesus needs patriots today in America and in the world. Whatever your job, you can witness for Christ. The Church calls you to full-time service for Christ.

Have you considered dedicating your life to Christ as a disciple? You are needed. Twenty million teen-agers in America have no real knowledge of Jesus. What a field for teaching the gospel!

"I heard Him call, 'Come follow,'
that was all—
Who would not follow, if they heard
Him call?"

Bible Passages

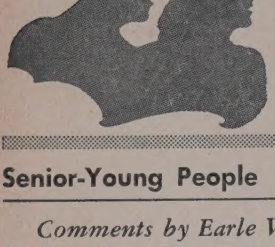
M., Feb. 14. Samuel, A Man of God. I Sam. 3:1-21.
T., Feb. 15. Elisha, The Prophet. II Kings 2:1-15.
W., Feb. 16. Philip, A Preacher. Acts 8:5-40.
T., Feb. 17. Isaac At The Well. Genesis 24:42-52.
F., Feb. 18. The Land of Abram. Genesis 15:18.
S., Feb. 19. Festus, A Ruler. Acts 25:1-27.
Sun., Feb. 20. Topic—Today's Patriots. Micah 6:6-8; 4:1-3.

Project

List the nationalities represented in your group on a basis of their names. Ask the members to prepare and report upon the contribution which the men and women of their nationality (or race) have brought to America. They may use as a basis some outstanding figure of their nationality. For example, many of the singers of the Metropolitan Opera Company are foreign born.

Ask members of the group to report on the contributions to American life made by persons in various fields of endeavor—business, engineering, music, medicine, science, statesmanship.

Look in your magazines, comics, and papers to see instances of prejudiced attitudes toward other races and creeds. Report on these and ask your group what can be done to counteract these attitudes.



The Beatitudes

No. 1 in a Series:
"Treasures from the New Testament"

Matthew 5: 1-12

Senior-Young People — *FEBRUARY 27* —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

This is the first topic in a series of four very interesting ones. Each one is based on a portion of Scripture which is very familiar. In fact, so familiar that one is sometimes inclined to let it "go over one's head," and not fully realize or understand the meaning. The purpose of these topics is to make the meaning more significant. At the close of each meeting each member should have some new thought regarding these much loved portions of Scripture. Next month, we shall study "The Lord's Prayer," "The Love Chapter" (I Corinthians 13), and "The Christian Endeavor Chapter" (Romans 12). This week our study is based on "The Beatitudes," the "blesseds" of the Bible.

To insure a more satisfactory study of The Beatitudes, have them written on the blackboard so they can be before the group all the time.

The Scripture Setting

The Beatitudes come early in New Testament reading. Very familiar passages precede it. As the Gospel according to Matthew begins, the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David and Abraham,—fourteen generations,—is given. Immediately, the coming of Christ by a virgin is foretold, then described. Joseph and Mary being warned, flee to Egypt until Herod's death. Then comes John the Baptist to the wilderness of Judea preaching repentance, "for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." He baptized many who confessed their sins. When Jesus came to be baptized, the Spirit of God descended upon Him like a dove. Following His baptism, He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. There He fasted forty days and nights. When Satan tempted Him with three great offers, Jesus had three convicting answers from the Holy Scriptures that brought Him victory. His answer was "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4: 4). His second answer was simple, "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." (Matthew 4: 7). The straightforward third answer was "Get thee hence, Satan, for it is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." (Matthew 4: 10). The devil left Him, and the angels ministered to Him.

Soon after this, He called Peter and Andrew, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then James and John are called, and follow. Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing. His fame spread through all Syria, and great crowds followed Him. To get away from the multitudes for awhile, He went up on a mountain, and when the disciples gathered about Him, He taught them, giving them the Sermon on the Mount. In that same chapter, He re-affirmed the Commandments. It was here that He claims anger and hate to be as bad as murder, lust as bad as adultery, etc. Thus, it was in this dramatic setting that He taught His followers the wonderful "Beatitudes."

The Meaning and Implication Today

Many Christians are puzzled by the beatitudes. They find themselves in a position much as the tourist before a beautiful painting. He knows he must admire it, but dosen't know why. The characteristics extolled in the beatitudes are admirable because Jesus says that those who possess them are blessed. But it is difficult to understand why. Basically, however, these are all related to redemption and its processes.

Let's look at these "blesseds," one by one:

(*Verse 3*) The "poor in spirit" are the simple, common people who are teachable, hopeful, patient, reliable, loyal and unselfish. The story of the Pharisee and Publican is a good example of such humility. Recall it to mind. Those who recognize their shortcomings, who desire to be better, and have not given up the fight for greater righteousness, are "poor in spirit." Jesus promised no blessing for the hopeless, the despairing, the spiritually dead or indifferent.

(*Verse 4*) There is no blessing nor benediction for those drugged or hypnotized into unconsciousness, or for souls asleep or spiritually dead. The soul that "mourns" or realizes and regrets its spiritual lack, can enter into higher reaches of spiritual life and be comforted. To mourn or sympathize also means to suffer with others.

(*Verse 5*) "Meek" does not mean that which arises from weakness of character or lack of self-respect. It is even a larger and richer meaning than we give "humble." The truly meek are loyal, faithful, and lav abiding. When one is meek enough to r nounce the things he cannot do well, ar do faithfully the things he can do, the resu is good. Meekness is the spirit of co-oper tion. In Jesus' sense, only the meek ca possess the world and it blessings.

(*Verse 6*) No matter how much or grows or "hungers" spiritually, he cann outrun the spiritual supply. One must n be content in his own petty, insignifica life, but "press toward the mark for th prize of the high calling of God in Chri Jesus." (Philippians 3: 14). In physic things, hunger is often regarded as a curs but in spiritual things it is most admirabl

(*Verse 7*) The "mercy" beatitude is mad clear by considering the teaching in oth portions of God's Word. We are taught t treat others as we want them to treat u forgive others their sins, as God has forgive us ours; we shall be judged by the way w judge others; and if we give, it shall b given unto us. How amazed was the or who asked, "When saw we *Thee* hungry o sick or naked, and did not minister t Thee?"

(*Verse 8*) The "pure in heart" are tho who love the highest, reverence God sons, nourish the kind of life that bears th fruits of love, meekness and unselfish ser ice. It is promised that the pure in hea shall be ranked highest among God's pe ple. Those who would enter into life mu keep the commandments. Only those mo ally disciplined and pure in heart will fi the vision of God.

(*Verse 9*) The true meaning of "peac makers" is those making for harmony an order. A peacemaker radiates good will an becomes the germ of wholesome life an growth, but is not necessarily a leader. H desires to work together for greater end The fruit of the spirit is love, and th who are born of the Spirit show a spiritu likeness of their Father. Peacemakers sha be called sons of God.

(*Verse 10*) There is no blessing promise for those who suffer for wickedness' sak Those who put Jesus to death were n common sinners, not thieves, harlots, et but official guardians of law and religio such as Caiaphas, Pilate, Herod, the pries etc. They did it "for righteousness' sak too. The Kingdom of God belongs to tho who will make high adventure of righ eousness, believing in peace and love workable realties. To them is promised th heavenly vision. Calvary makes it possib

Messages From The Bible

M., Feb. 21. Divine Comfort. Matt. 11:28-30.
T., Feb. 22. Productive Christians. John 15:1-5.
W., Feb. 23. A Rule For Forgiving. Mark 11:25, 26.
T., Feb. 24. Storing Up Treasures. Matt. 6:19-23.
F., Feb. 25. Sons of God. I John 3:1-3.
S., Feb. 26. Overcoming The World. Rev. 2:7, 17.
Sun., Feb. 27. Topic—The Beatitudes. Matthew 5:1-12.

AIM OF THE TOPIC

1. To have a larger understanding of the Beatitudes, as a way of life.

FOR DISCUSSION

Before the meeting, write each beatitude on a slip of paper, and distribute them to the members. Have each holder of a beatitude explain in his own words the meaning of it. Then add to it together.

The leader should also be prepared with questions or challenging remarks that will bring forth further discussion.

A SEED THOUGHT

"The beatitudes are intended to be the Be-attitudes."

The Beatitudes

No. 1 in a Series: "Treasures in The New Testament"

Matthew 5:1-12

Our Aims

1. To make the Lenten season spiritually uplifting.
2. To relate the Beatitudes to today's living.
3. To know the ideals of God's Kingdom as set forth in the Beatitudes.

Questions

1. What is the world's idea of happiness?
2. How did Christ illustrate the Beatitudes in His life?
3. How do the Beatitudes depend upon one another?
4. Repeat the most diricult Beatitude. Why is it difficult?
5. Repeat the most blessed Beatitude. Why is it the most blessed?
6. What Beatitude is most needed today? Why?

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Plan Your Meeting

Build a "Palace of Happiness." Assign to eight Endeavorers their parts in advance. A large house could be drawn on cardboard, or cut out from a magazine and pasted on a cardboard and the door marked "Mercy," the windows "Purity," etc.

The Palace of Happiness

It is interesting to consider the Beatitudes as a picture of the Palace of Happiness which the Christian builds with the aid of Christ, in which he is to live forever. Here are the principle features which can be illustrated and dramatized by your society members:

1. *The Foundation*: *Humility.* (v. 3). "Blessed are the poor in spirit." Christ begins with this, for poverty of spirit is the foundation stone on which God lays the superstructure of glory. The word poverty has to do with the spirit and not with temporal things. The Bible states that it is easier for a poor man to stand in humility before Christ than it is for a rich one. However, all who stand before Him in humanity of spirit will find that theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Humbleness brings self-exaltation, and it is the only foundation upon which the palace of happiness may be erected.

2. *The Bedroom*: *Sorrow.* (v. 4). "Blessed are they that mourn." The chamber of grief and sorrow is found in every palace of happiness. This sorrow is to be a mourning for sin, and the mourning for the sorrows of others. Bishop Gore said, "A Christian ought to have his own burden so well in hand that he is able to leave the large spaces of his heart for other people to lay their sorrows upon." It is the work of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to show us how all things work together for good to those that love God.

3. *The Library*: *Meekness* (v. 5). "Blessed are the meek." Meekness is the library of the Palace of Happiness because it involves the teachable spirit. It inherits the earth, and the library is the room of all the house that best represents the earth, gathering in all that men have experienced and discovered. We should manifest that spirit of good-will, of submission, of forbearing and forgiving.

4. *The Dining-Room*: *Righteousness* (v. 6). "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness." There must be a dining-room in the Palace of Happiness, for appetite is the condition of the growth and health of the body. If there is no hunger for righteousness the soul will become thin and weak and wither away. We should hunger and thirst after righteousness, for we shall be filled.

5. *The Door*: *Mercy* (v. 7). "Blessed are the merciful." Mercy is the door of Christ's Palace of Happiness because it is the outgoing characteristic of Christian life, the point of contact with the outside world of sorrow, need, and sin. Through the door of mercy, which is love in action, the blessings which Christ gives are carried forth to bless others, or the wretched are admitted within to partake of food and good cheer and peace. Mercy is the only door that will admit one to the Palace of Happiness.

6. *The Windows*: *Purity.* (v. 8). "Blessed are the pure in heart." There is nothing that a housewife is more anxious to keep clean than the windows. Uncleanness here shows itself at once, and mars the view of all outside, just as foulness in the heart makes the whole world seem foul and ugly. The windows are the life of the house and one of the best things connected with Christ's Palace of Happiness is the view we get from its windows,—"they shall see God!" No wonder this is the favorite Beatitude of most Christians.

7. *The Living Room*: *Peacemaking.* (v. 9). "Blessed are the peacemakers." The living room was formerly called the parlor. "Parlor" comes from a French word meaning "to speak," to parley; it is the talking-place, and peace-making is done by talking. This is why this Beatitude is the parlor of Christ's Palace of Happiness. By promoting peace one does a work pleasing to God, and for which he shall receive abundant reward. Peace comes in right relation to God and our fellowmen. Peacemakers are called the children of God, for they possess His nature and will inherit His blessings.

8. *The Kitchen*: *Persecution.* (v. 10-12). "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake." The kitchen is the place of heat and discomfort and toil, but the place out of which health and strength flow into the dining room and so all over the house. It is a fit symbol of the last Beatitude. We can expect persecutions, for they purify and even sweeten life.

Intermediate — *FEBRUARY 27* —

The Sermon on the Mount

Jesus preached the immortal Sermon on the Mount at what is called, "the horns of Hattin." It was preached to a great throng of people with the disciples in the foreground. This sermon "was and remains, seen across the span of civilization, and judged by the standards of the severest modern criticism, the great masterpiece of religious address." Others may grow stale, but this sermon, ever so often read over, is always new. It gives to us the full prospect of Christianity. It is the moral law of the kingdom of Christ; it occupies in the New Testament the place which in the Old Testament is occupied by the Ten Commandments. It has been called by Maclaren, "Jesus' Inaugural Address"; by Tait, "The Great Character of Christianity." The Sermon is compact; it is elaborately symmetrical; full of illustrations, and it makes its appeal to many faculties of the soul.

Following the Beatitudes

Jesus in the Beatitudes enumerates the heavenly characteristics of those who belong to the Kingdom. Then, immediately, He tells His disciples of the strategic part that they, as members of His Kingdom, will play in the world. They are the *salt.*

This salt is a hidden, conservative influence that belongs to God's children. We noted the conspicuous place of light in the Christian's life. Now we see the quiet, permeating influence that the presence of salt plays in the world. Both are needed, but we are conscious of the futility of salt that has lost its saltiness. Its power is in its savory influence. Its work is to remain steadfast, pungent with the testimony that it bears in the world.

In Matthew 5:14-16 He follows with a description of "light." The chief characteristic of light is that of spending itself: it exists solely for the purpose of losing itself, that it may be found again in brightness diffused on all around.

Why waste light on hidden interiors, unused, unimportant places? Jesus tells us *we* are the light—we do not carry it on a torch.

From The Book Of Books

M., Feb. 21. Divine Comfort. Matt. 11:28-30.
T., Feb. 22. Productive Christians. John 15:1-5.
W., Feb. 23. Forgiving One Another. Mark 11:25, 26.
T., Feb. 24. Storing Up Treasures. Matt. 6:19-23.
F., Feb. 25. Sons of God. I John 3:1-3.
S., Feb. 26. Overcoming The World Rev. 2:7, 17.
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